

# Brocade Advanced VDX and VCS Fabric Management

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Increase management flexibility of logical fabrics and physical switches.
- Gain application performance insights across the fabric with sFlow monitoring of Virtual Machines (VMs).
- Speed time to resolution with automated, advanced troubleshooting.
- Easily move VMs with zero downtime using simple port profile management.

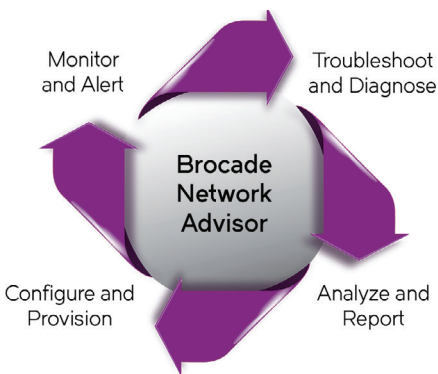


Figure 1. Brocade Network Advisor.

## Simplified Network Operations with VCS Fabrics and Brocade Network Advisor

Brocade® Network Advisor provides advanced, proactive management of Brocade VCS® fabrics and Brocade VDX® switches from an easy-to-use GUI. The simplicity and automation inherent in Brocade VCS Fabric technology is complemented with monitoring, diagnostics, and troubleshooting tools that simplify network operations management. Single-fabric or Brocade VCS Logical Chassis views enable administrators to manage the network at the fabric level and drill down through fabric-level dashboards to physical and virtual switches for granular monitoring and troubleshooting.

### Monitoring and Diagnostics

Proactive network monitoring helps minimize business disruption by focusing on early indicators. Brocade Network Advisor provides a variety of monitoring and analysis capabilities to help administrators manage performance and maintain network efficiency. These capabilities include collection and compilation of sFlow Layer 2 multipath data. By tracking sFlow data, users can understand where traffic is traversing through the fabric, where bandwidth is the most heavily consumed, and where potential hot spots are forming. Once identified, users can shut the top-talking ports or provision for more bandwidth.

Through integration with VMware vCenter, Brocade Network Advisor can identify applications that consume the most bandwidth across the fabric. If this high consumption is unexpected, it could narrow the scope for investigation to the identified application traffic.

Network latency can be monitored in the fabric context. If network latency is above a certain threshold, hop-by-hop inspection can pinpoint the bottleneck. As a result, users can isolate faults more quickly, which increases the resiliency of the VCS fabric and reduces operational costs.

Brocade Network Advisor also provides fabric-level diagnostics for rapid advanced troubleshooting. Leveraging Layer 2 multipath traceroutes from Brocade VDX switches, topology maps display traffic paths within a VCS fabric.

Ensuring network policy consistency is critical to efficient VM management. Without it, the business agility benefits promised by virtualization may not be fully realized. Simplified management of Automatic Migration of Port Profiles (AMPP) configurations ensure that port profiles are automatically applied as a VM moves through a VCS fabric.

### Availability and Performance

Optimizing virtual networks: With Brocade Network Advisor, the entire VLAN provisioning process is automated, saving valuable time. Tasks such as creating, editing, and deleting VLANs within a VCS fabric can be achieved in a few simple clicks. An aggregate view of all VLANs on each port or switch is displayed on an interactive topology map, making it easy to manage individual VLANs and view all VLANs in the VCS fabric.

**Non-disruptive firmware updates:** Administrators can upgrade the entire VCS fabric at once or can upgrade only a subset of Brocade VDX switches at a time. In particular, the Brocade VDX 8770 Switch includes an In-Service Software Upgrade (ISSU) feature, which enables administrators to upgrade firmware without service disruption. This feature gives organizations flexibility in managing their VCS fabrics and ensures network availability during software upgrades.

**Maintaining configuration consistency:** While configuration consistency is ideal, exceptions always occur. Network teams can ensure continuous availability by preparing for both planned and unexpected changes. Users can configure alerts when configuration changes occur and compare configurations to saved defaults to identify disparity. Administrators can make informed decisions as to whether the change is valid, or if the previous configuration should be reinstated. Customizable backup schedules ensure that incremental changes are retained for forensics or audit.

### Conclusion

Brocade Network Advisor allows network administrators to more rapidly adopt and operate Brocade VCS Fabric technology, increase VCS fabric resiliency, and maximize network efficiency. Organizations can get the most out of their VCS fabrics, lowering operational costs and increasing business agility.

### About Brocade

Brocade networking solutions help organizations achieve their critical business initiatives as they transition to a world where applications and information reside anywhere. Today, Brocade is extending its proven data center expertise across the entire network with open, virtual, and efficient solutions built for consolidation, virtualization, and cloud computing.

Learn more at [www.brocade.com](http://www.brocade.com).

#### Corporate Headquarters

San Jose, CA USA  
T: +1-408-333-8000  
[info@brocade.com](mailto:info@brocade.com)

#### European Headquarters

Geneva, Switzerland  
T: +41-22-799-56-40  
[emea-info@brocade.com](mailto:emea-info@brocade.com)

#### Asia Pacific Headquarters

Singapore  
T: +65-6538-4700  
[apac-info@brocade.com](mailto:apac-info@brocade.com)



© 2015 Brocade Communications Systems, Inc. All Rights Reserved. 12/15 GA-AG-451-05

ADX, Brocade, Brocade Assurance, the B-wing symbol, DCX, Fabric OS, HyperEdge, ICX, MLX, MyBrocade, OpenScript, The Effortless Network, VCS, VDX, Vplane, and Vyatta are registered trademarks, and Fabric Vision and vADX are trademarks of Brocade Communications Systems, Inc., in the United States and/or in other countries. Other brands, products, or service names mentioned may be trademarks of others.

Notice: This document is for informational purposes only and does not set forth any warranty, expressed or implied, concerning any equipment, equipment features, or service offered or to be offered by Brocade. Brocade reserves the right to make changes to this document at any time, without notice, and assumes no responsibility for its use. This information document describes features that may not be currently available. Contact a Brocade sales office for information on feature and product availability. Export of technical data contained in this document may require an export license from the United States government.

